

2021 OJP Unconference on Crime and Victimization

A Virtual Training Experience
May 18-20 & 25-27, 2021

Minnesota Department of Public Safety
Office of Justice Programs



[Unconference-at-a-Glance](#)[Week One Sessions](#)[Week Two Sessions](#)[Presenter Biographies](#)[CEUs/Credits](#)

Welcome, Unconference Attendees!

Thank you for choosing to attend the 2021 Office of Justice Programs Unconference on Crime and Victimization. This is the 33rd annual conference put on by OJP, and *we're glad you're here!* This e-booklet provides a brief overview of the sessions, speakers, and helpful information about the conference. There is **no cost** to attend any session.

Register for Each Unconference Session

Participants must register for each session individually, including the welcome, coalition reception and networking sessions. The registration links are located in the session headings and in the [Unconference-at-a-Glance](#) schedule.

Session Handouts

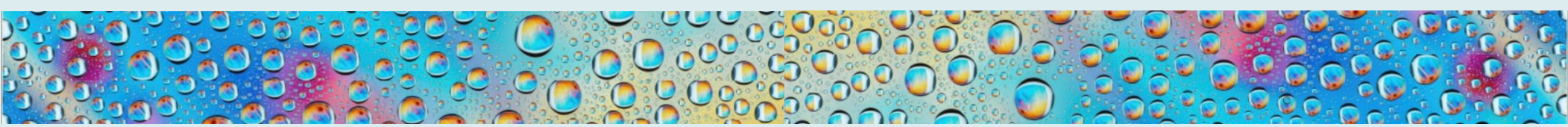
Any materials (Power Points, handouts) provided by the presenters will be available on the [OJP conference web page](#) at the time of session. Sessions will not be recorded.

OJP Unconference Networking Hour

Join the Minnesota Alliance on Crime, the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Violence Free Minnesota, Minnesota Children's Alliance, and Standpoint on **May 25, at noon**, for a lunch hour of networking and fun! The link to the event is in the [Unconference at a Glance](#) schedule.

Commitment to Safety

OJP is dedicated to providing a conference experience for attendees that is inclusive, safe, accessible, and welcoming for all. These expectations are for all those who participate in the virtual conference community. We invite all to help us create and maintain this space of belonging and make it a positive experience for everyone. If concerns arise during the conference, please connect with the [OJP Conference Director](#). Training Advisory Committee members are also available to reach out to as well. Their email addresses are linked to their names listed below.



Evaluation Forms

Immediately following a session, attendees will be asked to take a short, three-minute evaluation for the session. These evaluations are used to evaluate the effectiveness of individual speakers and the quality and relevance of topics they present. In addition, we want your feedback on the overall conference format and content. This evaluation is used to make improvements to next year's conference. Thank you in advance for completing these evaluations and for your opinions and suggestions.

Certificate of Attendance

Attendees who attend the entire session and complete the session-specific evaluation will have an opportunity to generate their own certificate of attendance for that session. The certificate link is available at the end of the evaluation.

Continuing Education Units/Credits

Professional continuing education credits have been applied for some of the workshop sessions. A complete list of the session and types of credits applied for is located at the end of this e-booklet.

Training Advisory Committee

Thank you to the Training Advisory Committee for their guidance, support, and dedication throughout the year. Without their generous help in preparation and assistance, the conference would not be possible.

[Amanda Colegrove](#) | [Monique Drier](#) | [Sarah Edstrom](#)
[Suzanne Elwell](#) | [Leticia Floyd](#) | [Kilomarie Granda](#)
[Selina Kolsrud](#) | [Rebecca Kutty](#) | [Katie Rojas-Jahn](#)
[Farji Shaheer](#) | [Brenda Skogman](#) | [Ashley Sturz-Griffith](#)
[Thi Synavone](#) | [Julia Tindell](#)



A message from OJP's Executive Director, Kate Weeks

Welcome to the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Office of Justice Programs 2021 "Unconference." I am looking forward to the incredible lineup of trainings over the next two weeks and the subsequent conversations, learning, and growing. Thank you to the tireless staff, Training Advisory Committee members, and presenters that have worked collaboratively to ensure that we continue to provide relevant and critical training during a pandemic. We have learned so much over the past year and will continue to adapt.

For those that joined us last year as we transitioned from an in-person learning event to providing a series of trainings over several months, thank you for your patience and support. And thank you for your never-ending commitment to those in need over the past year as we have all had to adapt in so many ways.

UNCONFERENCE AT-A-GLANCE

CLICK ON SESSION TITLE TO GET TO SESSION REGISTRATION PAGE

	TUESDAY 5/18	WEDNESDAY 5/19	THURSDAY 5/20
TIME	Session	Session	Session
9-9:30	Opening Welcome - Commissioner	Police Involvement in Parenting Time Issues	Native Women and Incarceration in Minnesota
9:30-10	Access to Expungement for Victims with Criminal Records		
10-10:30			
10:30-11	BREAK	Trafficking of Indigenous Youth: Risk and Resilience	BREAK
11-11:30	Restorative Justice Practices in Schools: A Youth Perspective		Assessing the Needs of Victims/Survivors Through Evaluation
11:30-12			
12-12:30	Open	BREAK	BREAK
12:30-1			
1-1:30		(Un)Modeling and De-colonizing Culturally Specific Services to Support LGBTQ+ Communities	Ensuring Access to Services for Marginalized Populations
1:30-2			
2-2:30	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK
2:30-4	Identifying Victims and Survivors of Labor Trafficking	Until We Are All Free	Healing Centered Engagement: Building Resilience Among Youth Who Have Experienced Trauma
3-3:30			
3:30-4			

	TUESDAY 5/25	WEDNESDAY 5/26	THURSDAY 5/27
TIME	Session	Session	Session
9:00-9:30	Victim Centered Prosecution	Rural Advocacy	Older and Vulnerable Abuse 101
9:30-10			
10-10:30	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK
10:30-11	Next Step Program Hospital-based Violence Intervention: A Public Health Approach to Community Safety	Restitution Matters	Has Restorative Justice Served Victims of Crime Well? A Critical Analysis of a Promising Partnership
11-11:30			
11:30-12			
12-12:30	Joint Coalition Reception - All are Welcome!	BREAK	Open
12:30-1			
1-1:30	Men Breaking Free Update: Reformed John School		
1:30-2	BREAK		
2-2:30	BREAK		
2:30-3	Addressing the Impacts for IPV and Human Trafficking during COVID-19	Monetary Recovery for Labor Trafficking Survivors	Supporting LGBTQ Victim/Survivors in the DV & SV Field
3-3:30			
3:30-4			
4-4:30			Closing - Kate Weeks, OJP ED

WEEK ONE – TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2021

Welcome and Remarks from the Minnesota Department of Public Safety

Joann Jones, Training and Communications Unit Coordinator, and DPS Commissioner John Harrington

9 - 9:30 a.m. welcome

The Department of Public Safety's Commissioner John Harrington will welcome attendees with a welcome greeting and message for our official opening of the 33rd annual event!

Access to Expungement to Victims with Criminal Records

Caroline Palmer, J.D., MN Department of Health and Nilushi Renaweera, J.D., Minnesota Attorney General's Office

9:30 - 10:30 a.m. webinar

In fall 2020, the Office of the Minnesota Attorney General announced the creation of the statewide, prosecutor-led *Help Seal My Record* initiative to assist with the expungement of criminal records. This statewide effort joins existing programs in Washington, Ramsey, and Hennepin Counties. Funding for it comes in part from the Safe Harbor Program at the MN Department of Health, underscoring the importance of access to expungement of criminal records for victims of human trafficking and exploitation as well as other crimes. This presentation will provide an overview of how criminal records can be part of victimization and discuss how criminal records impact a victim's health and well-being. It will explain *Help Seal My Record* and other prosecutor-led expungement programs to assist Minnesotans with sealing their criminal records and finding second chances.

Restorative Justice Practice in Schools: A Youth Perspective

Haley Ableiter, Haley Adkins, and Johnette Ostlund; Moderated by Anne Parish, M.Ed., Reach Mentoring Program

11 a.m. - 12 p.m. panel

This panel presentation will feature three students and their perspectives in a moderated discussion about how young people can make policy and cultural change within a system – focusing on punishment in school systems. They will address the barriers and successes encountered since taking on the effort to replace punitive punishments with restorative processes, specifically to restore and build relationships. The three students and moderator are part of the Students Offering Support (SOS) program, which brings together youth and adults, connects community to school, and works to achieve outreach and delivery of learning and socialization support to youth in Carlton County who are often marginalized and disenfranchised. In this session, panelists will discuss how their environment has been impacted using restorative justice as well as what challenges and successes they've had navigating school systems. Attendees will leave with ideas on how restorative justice practices could benefit their own organizations and how to take steps towards using it to manage conflict, repair harm, and build relationships.

Identifying Victims and Survivors of Labor Trafficking

Bukola Oriola, The Enitan Story

2:30 - 3:30 p.m. webinar

Despite the Trafficking Victim Protection Act (TVPA) having been in existence for 20 years now, labor trafficking victims and survivors still struggle to access and receive services that meet their needs. This is largely due to the fact that many still think human trafficking is solely sex trafficking. This 60-minute presentation examines labor trafficking from a survivor's perspective and identifies some of the gaps that prevent proper identification and provision of specialized services to its victims and survivors. In addition, it will provide techniques that can help service providers and other professionals identify victims and survivors of labor trafficking among those who reach out to them for assistance to meet other needs or to address other types of victimization.

WEEK ONE – WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021

Police Involvement in Parenting Time Issues

Amy Edwall, Staff Attorney, and Joseph Ambrosio, Senior Attorney, Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services

9 - 10 a.m. webinar

This session will discuss the rights of unmarried parents, parents with court orders, and the role of law enforcement in helping keep the peace between parties who do not agree on parenting time. What do the civil statutes require and what do criminal statutes require? The goals of this presentation are to clarify the rights of unmarried parents when there is no court order, examine the rights of parents when there is a court order, and explain the role of police in helping with parenting time disputes.

Trafficking of Indigenous Youth: Risk and Resilience

Anne LaFrinier-Ritchie, Someplace Safe

10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. webinar

This workshop will discuss the trafficking and exploitation of Indigenous youth, including past initiatives, current state efforts, and future (potential) actions to address it. The presenter will address the historical context and current systems of oppression impacting trafficking and exploitation against Indigenous youth. Work and subsequent findings that were part of the National Human Trafficking Training and Technical Assistance Center's Human Trafficking Leadership Academy will also be discussed, as they were developed to address culture as a protective factor in preventing trafficking among all Indigenous youth. Examples of ongoing work will be revealed while providing attendees with actionable steps to move forward in addressing trafficking and exploitation of Indigenous youth in Minnesota.

(Un)Modeling and De-colonizing Culturally Specific Services to Support LGBTQ+ Communities

Mubina Qureshi, Ph.D., SEWA – AIFW

1 - 2 p.m. webinar

Homonormativity can be as dangerous as Heteronormativity for many Queer and Trans individuals, especially when they are People of Color, immigrants, children of immigrant parents, (F1) students, and/or fall into a 'not Queer enough' category. While serving South Asian Queer and Transgender communities in culturally and linguistically specific ways, the presenter needed to (un)model and decolonize the narratives, awareness initiatives, and support services to LGBTQ+ Victims/Survivors of different forms of violence. LGBTQ+ communities suffer from mental health crises; suicide ideation; and physical and sexual violence from intimate and non-intimate partner/s, strangers, close and extended family members, colleagues, and their 'Queer AF' friends. Poetically speaking, their situations reflect the similar pain: "My candle burns from both ends/ It will not last the night; /But ah, my foes, and oh my friends-/ It gives a lovely light." Advocating gender justice and providing culturally specific services, the structures prevalent in mainstream practices must be revived and re-imagined.

Until We Are All Free

Kevin Reese and Kahlee Griffey, Until We Are All Free Movement

2:30 - 4 p.m. webinar

This workshop offers attendees the opportunity to learn how previously incarcerated and justice impacted individuals are stepping forward to lead the solution to restoring community after mass incarceration. The speakers will talk about the formation and ongoing activities of the Until We Are All Free Movement and identify areas where systems and system professionals can position themselves to be a part of the solution. The session will explore the barriers and trauma that exist on a community level which can keep people coming out of the justice system from reaching the full versions of themselves. This workshop aims to allow us all to envision a future where community and transformational justice are the approach we take to advancing racial equity, ending mass incarceration, and restoring our communities to safety for all of us.

Native Women and Incarceration in Minnesota

Linda Thompson, MN Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition, Natasha Kingbird, Northwest Indian Community Development Center, and Nikki Engel, Violence Free Minnesota

9 - 10:30 a.m. webinar

Currently, there are very few programs and services dedicated to the safety and well-being of incarcerated women who are or have been victims of domestic abuse, sexual violence, or stalking. For Native American women—who are both over-represented in Minnesota prisons and as victims of abuse and violence across the United States—these programs and services may be critically important to breaking cycles of victimization and criminal justice system involvement. Through interviews with incarcerated and formerly incarcerated Native American women, we found that justice-involved Native American women in Minnesota have unique incarceration and re-entry needs related to their racial/ethnic identities and histories of victimization that can serve as a model for a culturally responsive, victim-centered approach to corrections and re-entry.

Assessing the Needs of Victims/Survivors through Evaluation

Claire Exley, M.S., Winona County Attorney's Office

11 a.m. - 12 p.m. webinar

Evaluation starts with a desire to learn and provides an analysis of the impact and effectiveness of our work. Victim service professionals must ensure that victims/survivors have access to services, justice, and healing options for the many different impacts of victimization. This session will explore several different evaluation projects recently conducted in Winona County, as well as the subsequent findings and change actions prompted by the evaluation work. These evaluation projects included an in-depth victim needs assessment, continuous case file review projects, and an overall system effectiveness evaluation. Session attendees will be given tools, practical steps, and resources to conduct evaluations of various scale in their own communities. Attendees will learn how to create information that professionals in their communities can use to learn about and make decisions for best practices, programs, and future progress.

Ensuring Access to Services for Marginalized Populations

Mary Willis, M.A., L.P.C.C.

1 - 2 p.m. webinar

This workshop will begin with an overview of the work of the Domestic Abuse Project (DAP) to disrupt generational cycles of violence for all members of the family, along with systems of power and control, and how these contribute to cycles of violence and generational trauma. We will then move into a deeper discussion of DAP's early childhood service model and the specific therapeutic modality used, Child-Parent Psychotherapy (CPP), providing a deeper look into how explicitly naming trauma experiences can lead to healing for child and caregiver. From here, we will pivot to a community discussion regarding the ways in which services are less accessible to members of marginalized communities/those who are directly affected by systems of power and control. We will work together to consider how individuals who need these services most can access them reliably across a course of treatment spanning 18 months or longer.

Healing Centered Engagement: Building Resilience Among Youth Who Have Experienced Trauma

Paula Schaefer, M.S., and Jory Catalpa, Ph.D, MN Dept. of Health and Joshua Casey, M.S., The Link

2:30 - 4 p.m. webinar

We are all familiar by now with trauma-informed care (TIC). Healing centered engagement (HCE) takes TIC to the next level. A healing centered engagement approach moves toward an asset driven focus on well-being rather than the traumas that youth experience. Join us to learn how to assist youth to cultivate their own resilience by incorporating positive youth development, harm reduction, resilience, and relationship-based approaches into your work. Drawing from presenter expertise in working with youth who are survivors of multiple trauma exposures, this workshop will assist participants in applying healing centered engagement and begin to build healthier relationships that promote youth resilience. Numerous related resources will be shared.

Victim Centered Prosecution

Keishelle Dupres, J.D., and Katie Salaba, M.A., St. Paul City Attorney's Office

9 - 10 a.m. webinar

The role of a system advocate is crucial to maintaining a victim-centered approach to prosecuting domestic violence. In this presentation, a victim witness coordinator and domestic violence prosecutor will share their experience in developing a victim witness program from the ground up and how they work in partnership to ensure that the principles of the St. Paul Blueprint for Safety are at the center of every prosecution. Presenters will discuss how this partnership is also a new and key component of the St. Paul Gone on Arrival Project, an innovative approach to cases in which the perpetrator has left the scene of a domestic violence offense prior to police arrival. Finally, presenters will share their experiences providing early referrals and OJP Direct Client Assistance funding to victims in a way that builds trust and ultimately improves prosecution outcomes.

The Next Step Program Hospital-based Violence Intervention: A Public Health Approach to Community Safety

Kentral Galloway and Farji Shaheer, Hennepin Co. Healthcare, and Josh Peterson, City of MPLS Office of Violence Prevention 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. meeting

As jurisdictions are reimagining what's possible for community safety systems, there's an important role for public health approaches to violence prevention. Since 2006, Minneapolis has focused on youth violence prevention as a public health issue. One of the core initiatives of Minneapolis's Office of Violence Prevention is Next Step, a hospital-based violence intervention program. The City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County Medical Center (HCMC) launched the Next Step partnership in 2015. Next Step serves victims of violent injury treated at HCMC, North Memorial, and Abbott Northwestern hospitals. Violence Intervention Specialists provide immediate in-hospital crisis intervention and advocacy and post-discharge community support that connects participants to needed psychosocial, community, and personal resources. This session will offer information, resources, and lessons learned from the Next Step approach and public health approaches to community safety.

OJP Unconference Networking Hour

Minnesota Alliance on Crime (MAC), the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MNCASA), Violence Free Minnesota (VFMN), Minnesota Children's Alliance (MCA), and Standpoint

12 – 1 pm

Take a break from the webinars and join MAC, MNCASA, VFMN, MCA and Standpoint for a lunch hour of networking and fun!

Addressing the Health Impacts of Intimate Partner Violence and Human Trafficking During COVID-19

Meggie Royer, Violence Free Minnesota, Erica Lester, M.P.H., Minnesota Association of Community Health Centers, and Mary Hopkins, M.P.H., Minnesota Dept. of Health

2:30 - 4 p.m. webinar

This training covers the basics of intimate partner violence, reproductive coercion, and human trafficking and their impacts on health, as well as an overview of Minnesota's Safe Harbor laws and services, strategies for providing virtual support to families and patients, and how to connect families and patients with advocacy services. Participants will learn about important factors to consider when providing telehealth or tele-based services. Presenters will share resources and tools that participants can use in their telehealth or tele-based services to promote mental health and discuss intimate partner violence, reproductive coercion, and human trafficking.

WEEK TWO – WEDNESDAY, MAY 26, 2021

Rural Advocacy

Deirdre Keys, Someplace Safe

9 - 10 a.m. webinar

Victim needs differ between metro programs and rural programs. In this workshop, we will explore the unique challenges victims face in rural Minnesota in contrast to Metro area programs and the creative strategies advocates are using to assist with the complexities of moving from victimization to safety in rural Minnesota. Statewide and metro program staff would benefit from attending this training to expand awareness of the needs of victims of violence in rural Minnesota as they access programs across Minnesota.

Restitution Matters

Wendy Murphy and Sandra Seelhammer, City of Bloomington Attorney's Office

10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. webinar

Restitution is an ancient legal concept traced back to early structured societies, but its longevity does not make it more understandable or the process simple to navigate. We will cover the definitions related to restitution as well as the statutory basis for the “who, what, where, and when” related to requesting compensation for a victim's losses. We will talk about where restitution is covered in Minnesota statutes both inside and outside of 611A, and what that means for practitioners in the criminal justice system. Experiences working with victim/survivors through the restitution process, as well as restitution hearings in virtual court will be discussed. Finally, we will practice tips regarding working with English as a second language victims and explaining restitution as well as the contested restitution hearing process to victims.

Men Breaking Free - The Reformed "John School": A Look at our Progress

Kjersti "K.J." Bohrer, Men Breaking Free

1 - 2 p.m. webinar

Men Breaking Free is a ground-breaking, restorative justice approach to working with men who have been arrested for attempting to purchase sex from another human being. It engages men in an introspective, healing process designed to break the cycle of sex trafficking and sexual exploitation. The program provides men the opportunity to hear firsthand accounts of sex trafficking victims. Men are encouraged to respond to the stories they hear, creating an environment of dignity, respect, and self-awareness. Additionally, men are given the chance to see connections between toxic masculinity, sexuality, and society.

Monetary Recovery for Labor Trafficking Survivors

**Siv Dobrovolny, M.A., J.D., Minnesota Dept. of Labor and Industry, Rachel Kohler, Staff Attorney, Standpoint,
Alicia Thoj, M.A., City of St. Paul, and Sierra Cumberland, International Institute of Minnesota**

2:30 - 4 p.m. panel

Where is my money? This is a question labor trafficking survivors often ask when they have been unpaid or underpaid for their work. Monetary recovery in labor trafficking cases is possible. Getting back wages due to employees is part of the work that labor standards units at the city, state, and federal level engage in every day. Stakeholders, such as advocates, attorneys, and social workers, who are able to connect labor trafficking survivors with labor agencies, can increase survivors' chances of monetary recovery. The panelists will discuss how they work together to reach this goal.

WEEK TWO – THURSDAY, MAY 27, 2021

Older and Vulnerable Adult Abuse 101

Sara Green, J.D., and Betsy Mevissen, Minnesota Elder Justice Center

9 - 10 a.m. webinar

The Minnesota Elder Justice Center Victim Services team will present information regarding older and vulnerable adult abuse, neglect, and exploitation, including emerging concerns in the COVID-19 pandemic and new legislation regarding legal guardianship. An overview of building rapport and trust with clients, the benefits of offering validation and empowerment through advocacy, and considerations of legal services and representation will be presented.

Has Restorative Justice Served Victims of Crime Well? A Critical Analysis of a Promising Partnership

Ted Lewis and Dr. Mark Umbreit, Center for Restorative Justice and Peacemaking, University of MN, Duluth

10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. meeting

Since the 1980s, restorative justice in North America has legitimately been critiqued for being offender-centric in the way casework is generated in the justice systems. This presentation/discussion blended workshop explores this trend and shows how victim-centered processes have been in place since the inception of restorative justice. Research reveals how most participating victims, when engaged well, express high satisfaction with facilitated dialogue. But research also shows a sustained gulf between victim service and restorative justice stakeholders. As the field of victimology has now widened to include historical harm and trauma-informed perspectives, attention will be given to the perennial challenge of serving victims well, even when offenders are not identified. Recommendations will be made for victim-centered restorative programming that serves victims on their own terms, mobilizes victim and offender surrogates, and promotes community-driven compensation funds.

Supporting LGBTQ Victim/Survivors in the Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence Field

Alyssa Olson, Outfront Minnesota

2:30 - 4 p.m. webinar

This training will provide you with knowledge to work with LGBTQ victims in a manner that is welcoming, inclusive, and affirming. We will start by familiarizing ourselves with LGBTQ identities and language, then tackle the prevalence and dynamics of domestic violence and sexual assault in the LGBTQ community. A more advanced discussion of best practices when working with LGBTQ victims and ways service providers can be active allies to the LGBTQ community will follow.

Closing Remarks

Please join us for a short farewell closing of the 2021 Unconference led by OJP's Executive Director, Kate Weeks. No registration necessary. Simply join by clicking the "Closing Remarks" link which will lead you to the webinar!

4 - 4:30 p.m. webinar



Haley Ableiter

Cloquet High School | [Reach Mentoring Program](#)

Haley is a junior at Carlton High School. Her interests include sports, hanging out with friends, advocating for positive change, and working towards racial equity within schools and communities. She will be graduating from Carlton High School in 2022.

Haley Adkins

Cloquet High School | [Reach Mentoring Program](#)

Haley is a senior at Carlton High School and has received her associate degree from Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College in Carlton, Minnesota. Her interests include traveling, exploring the outdoors, spending time with friends and family, going to coffee shops, watching history documentaries, and cooking. In the fall, Haley will attend the University of Wisconsin-Madison, majoring in political science with the goal of becoming a foreign service officer or running for public office.

Joe Ambroson, Senior Attorney

[Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services](#)

Joe has been at SMRLS for over five years, representing clients experiencing poverty in the Twin Cities Metro area. He specializes in custody matters, divorces, and other cases involving domestic violence. Joe is a Safe at Home application assistant.

Kjersti Bohrer

[Breaking Free](#)



Kjersti "K.J." is the Director of Communications and Program Development for Breaking Free, Inc., a survivor-led nonprofit providing direct services for victims of sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation (CSE) established in 1996. She is a speaker, presenter, author, and survivor-leader of CSE. KJ has been compassionately educating diverse populations about CSE, shifting views, offering tools for self-healing, and giving voice to survivors for almost a decade. She is a mother, wife, and full-time truth-seeker.

Joshua Casey, M.S.

[The Link](#)





Joshua has been leading youth programs for two decades and currently works as a Senior Program Manager at The Link in Minneapolis, where he runs the Marshall Reed Youth Center, serving youth in the juvenile justice system, ages 14-18. Joshua holds a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a Master's degree in Experiential Education from Minnesota State University-Mankato. He is passionate about working with youth directly in ways aligned with positive youth development and trauma-informed care. Joshua delights in seeing and hearing how youth are finding the gold that is inherent in each and every one of them.

Jory Catalpa, Ph.D.

[MN Department of Health](#)



Jory is the Safe Harbor Program Evaluator for the MN Department of Health. Jory received their Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, where they specialized in evaluation and research design in the family social science discipline. In their role as program evaluator, Jory works with state agencies, survivor advisory groups, tribal nations, and multidisciplinary professionals to evaluate the integrated response for labor and sexually exploited and/or trafficked youth through age 24.

Sierra Cumberland  
[International Institute of Minnesota](#)

Sierra joined the Refugee Services Department of the International Institute of Minnesota in 2016 and is currently a case manager for the Anti-Human Trafficking Program. Sierra's role is to walk with and empower survivors on their path to healing and independence. She provides comprehensive services to immigrant survivors of sex and/or labor trafficking in Minnesota, including multi-disciplinary advocacy. A recipient of the 2020 US Attorney's Award for Excellence in the Pursuit of Justice, Sierra is passionate about helping victims seek justice for the crimes they survived and reuniting immigrant families that have been separated during their journey to safety.

Keishelle Dupres, J.D.

[St. Paul City Attorney's Office](#) 

Keishelle is a prosecutor in the Domestic Violence and Crimes Against Persons Unit of the St. Paul City's Office, where she has been focusing on domestic violence cases for the past two years. Keishelle earned her law degree from the University of Iowa and her Bachelor's degree in sociology from the University of St. Thomas. She has received extensive local and national training on victim-centered practices and evidence-based domestic violence prosecution.

Siv Dobrovolny, M.A., J.D.

[State of MN Department of Labor and Industry](#)



Siv joined the Labor Standards Unit at the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) in January 2020. She came to DLI with 15 years of legal experience representing immigrant crime victims. Most recently, she worked on a federal grant where she represented workers experiencing labor trafficking. As a Strategic Compliance Lead at DLI, Ms. Dobrovolny works on developing and coordinating strategic enforcement plans around enforcing Minnesota wage and hour law including the Minnesota Fair Labor Standards Act and the Women's Economic Security Act.

Amy Edwall, Staff Attorney

[Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services](#)

Amy works primarily with victim survivors of domestic abuse to protect their rights in family court. Amy is a Safe at Home application assistant and provides regular outreach and assistance to self-represented litigants in family court matters. She has a passion for educating crime victims about their rights.

Nikki Engel


[Violence Free Minnesota](#)



Nikki is the policy and legal systems program manager at Violence Free Minnesota, the coalition to end relationship abuse. In this role, she works closely with domestic violence (DV) agencies and advocates across the state on legal system responses to DV victims. She also works with state agencies and policymakers to ensure that DV victims' and advocates' voices are being represented in policymaking decisions. Nikki joined the coalition in 2019 after working as a legal advocate for LGBTQ+ victims of intimate partner violence, sexual assault, and hate/bias violence in Minnesota. She has graduate degrees in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.

Claire Exley, M.S.

[Winona County Attorney's Office](#) | [Winona](#)

[Sexual Assault Interagency Council](#) 

Claire is an experienced victim service provider working within the county victim services office and as part of the multi-disciplinary, interagency council. She has a demonstrated history working in the courts and improving outcomes for victims/survivors. Claire is passionate and driven to continuously evaluate and improve the work of the criminal justice system while supporting victims/survivors. Claire holds two Bachelor's degrees and a Master's degree from Winona State University. In her graduate research, Claire focused on understanding the needs of individuals affected by victimization, as well as exploring how their needs are met by service providers and identifying gaps in response. Throughout her career, Claire has presented at numerous community events, professional trainings, and college courses.

Kentral Galloway

[Next Step Program-Hennepin Healthcare](#)

Kentral is the Program Manager for the Next Step Program with Hennepin Healthcare. Prior to joining Next Step, Kentral served as a program manager for emergency shelter and central intake with St. Joseph's Home for Children. He has also worked in child protection and is a fierce advocate for young people, particularly those involved with the mental health and child protection systems.

Sara Green, J.D.

[Minnesota Elder Justice Center](#)

Sara is a staff attorney with the Minnesota Elder Justice Center (MEJC). Sara's early career was spent working as a counselor to at-risk youth and their families and then as a director of an independent living skills program serving vulnerable adults. Sara graduated from law school in 2012, and practiced as a family, estate, and probate law attorney in a low bono law firm prior to joining the team at MEJC in the summer of 2019. Sara's career is grounded in a holistic approach to facilitating client empowerment and increasing access to justice. Outside of work, Sara enjoys spending time in nature with her wife, Heather, and their two dogs, Oddy Mae and Pavel.

Mary Hopkins, M.P.H.

[MN Department of Health](#) | [MN Project Catalyst Resources](#)

Mary is the sexual violence prevention program director in the violence prevention programs unit at the MN Department of Health, where she works to prevent violence before it occurs. Mary has a Master of Public Health in community health promotion from the University of Minnesota and a B.A. in sociology and women, gender, and sexuality studies from the University of Kansas. Mary has presented at the National Sexual Assault Conference, National Safe States Conference, the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault symposium, as well as numerous statewide and local trainings.

Deirdre Keys

[Someplace Safe](#)

Deirdre is a career advocate having worked in metro, rural, and statewide Minnesota programs for 25+ years. Deirdre was a trainer with Standpoint MN for eight years, creating New Laws trainings specifically for advocates, and conducted state-wide training to justice system professionals during a four-year stalking program initiative. Deirdre has been working at Someplace Safe providing direct services in rural Minnesota for almost four years.

Natasha Kingbird

[Northwest Indian Community Development Center](#)

Natasha's Indian name is Ginewikwe, which means Golden Eagle Woman. She is a Band member of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians and works at the Northwest Indian Community Development Center (NWICDC) as a Women's Reintegration Care Coordinator. She has been employed at NWICDC for almost four years and is currently a full-time student at the Leech Lake Tribal College. Natasha advocates for women coming home from prison and jail to find stabilization, recovery, a new path, and to get past barriers. She resides in Bemidji.

Rachel Kohler, Esq.

[Standpoint MN](#)



Rachel went to law school at Hamline University and has been working in immigration law since 2009. She joined Standpoint MN as an attorney with an immigration focus and specializes in how the immigration legal system intersects with domestic and sexual violence. She utilizes this specialty by providing over-the-phone legal advice, offering state and nation-wide trainings, and by providing full representation of immigration cases related to domestic violence, sexual violence, and human trafficking. Rachel has experience representing and advocating for the rights of labor trafficking victims through the immigration process and sits on several labor trafficking task forces.

Anne LaFrinier-Ritchie

[Someplace Safe](#) | [Safe Harbor](#)



Anne is a regional navigator and a 2020 graduate of the National Human Trafficking Training and Technical Assistance Center's Human Trafficking Leadership Academy Cohort five, which developed recommendations on how culture can be used as a protective factor against human trafficking among Indigenous youth. She has worked with and in tribal communities for the past decade, and in advocacy, child welfare, and anti-trafficking since 2016. She has led/co-facilitated prevention groups since 2011. Anne is a board member of the Indigenous Association and Mending the Sacred Hoop.

Ted Lewis

[Center for Restorative Justice & Peacemaking,](#)
[University of Minnesota](#)

Ted is a restorative justice trainer and consultant with the Center for Restorative Justice & Peacemaking. Since the mid-90s, he has worked in the fields of restorative justice and conflict resolution as a practitioner, trainer, program manager, director, writer, and consultant. His area of specialty is designing resources and trainings for victim offender conferencing. In addition to serving on the National Association for Community and Restorative Justice Executive Committee, he provides workshops and reconciliation services for church communities and manages the Restorative Church website. Ted lives in Duluth.

Erica Lester, M.P.H.

[Minnesota Association of Community Health Centers](#)

Erica is the workforce specialist at the Minnesota Association of Community Health Centers, where she provides training and technical assistance to health center staff, works to increase the visibility of health centers in the job market, and assists in building health professions training programs. She has a history of research and community outreach in sexual violence prevention. Erica has been presenting on intimate partner violence and human trafficking to domestic violence programs and community health centers as a part of a project she joined in 2020.

Betsy Mevissen

[Minnesota Elder Justice Center](#)

Betsy works as a Victim Services Manager at the Minnesota Elder Justice Center (MEJC) and has worked professionally as an advocate for 10 years providing empathetic listening and holistic support to victims/survivors of domestic and elder abuse. Betsy graduated from Bethel University in 2001 with a psychology degree and worked for other nonprofit organizations before joining MEJC in March 2020. In addition to providing telephonic advocacy services and trainings, Betsy is passionate about preventing advocate burnout by encouraging professional self-care and trauma-informed organizational practices. Outside of work, she enjoys urban homesteading, camping, and enjoying music with her husband, daughters, and pets.

Wendy Murphy

[City of Bloomington Attorney's Office](#)

Wendy is the Deputy City Attorney in the Criminal Division, where she prosecutes petty misdemeanor, misdemeanor, and gross misdemeanor offenses. She previously worked at Eckberg Lammers, P.C., prosecuting for Washington, Rice, Anoka, and Hennepin Counties. Wendy has presented on the Blueprint for Safety protocol, best practices for law enforcement agencies responding to domestic violence (DV) calls, and the importance of multi-agency collaboration in response to DV. Currently, she serves on the Criminal Law Section Council of the MSBA and served as a prior chairperson for the Hope Center in Rice County.

Alyssa Olson

[Outfront Minnesota](#)



Alyssa has been with Outfront Minnesota since April 2019. As the Community Access Specialist, they work in collaboration with survivors and community members to build safety and power, as well as to make sure LGBTQ victim/survivors are seen and supported through the provision of crisis intervention services, systems advocacy, community education, and outreach.

Bukola Oriola

[The Enitan Story](#)



Bukola is an international and public speaker, author, mentor, advocate, entrepreneur, and former member of the U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking. She is now a member of the International Survivors of Human Trafficking Advisory Council, appointed by the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights. She currently consults for the Office for Victims of Crime and the U.S. Department of State. An award winning journalist and survivor of labor trafficking, Bukola founded and serves as the Executive Director of The Enitan Story, a Minnesota-based nonprofit with a mission to advocate for victims and empower survivors of human trafficking and domestic violence.



Johnette Ostlund

Cloquet High School | [Reach Mentoring Program](#)

Johnette is a senior at Carlton High School and will be receiving her associate degree by the end of fall 2021. Her interests include outdoor activities like hiking, snowboarding, biking, and paddle-boarding. She is an avid reader and practices meditation. Free time is spent advocating for environmental justice. In the fall, she will be attending school at Fort Lewis College in Colorado, majoring in environmental science and engineering.

Caroline Palmer, J.D.

[MN Department of Health](#)



Caroline is the Safe Harbor Director at the MN Department of Health. Her focus is on building cross-disciplinary collaboration across government and private sectors on behalf of survivors of sex and labor trafficking. She is responsible for policy development, grantee oversight, project management, and data/evaluation management. In 2018, Caroline received the distinguished service award from the MN Office of Justice Programs. Recent presentation experience includes the 2021 Minnesota Association of Alternative Programs Conference and the 2020 International Human Trafficking and Social Justice Conference.

Anne Parish, M.Ed.

[Reach Mentoring Program](#)

Anne is the REACH Mentoring Program Coordinator and adult facilitator for the Students Offering Support (SOS) Program. Anne partners with youth to discover solutions to community challenges through positive youth development, service-learning, social emotional learning, and evidenced-based mentoring.

Josh Peterson

[City of Minneapolis Office of Violence Prevention](#)

Josh provides direction and intervention efforts at the program, system, and policy levels in his role and serves as project director for a CDC-funded youth violence prevention grant. He helped found and supports a hospital-based violence intervention program partnership with three hospitals; oversees the City's portion of a multi-jurisdictional 24/7 youth connection center; provides violence prevention technical assistance to policy makers, city departments, and community-based agencies,]; and works with youth development and juvenile justice. Josh is currently a Bloomberg American Health Initiative Fellow pursuing a Master's degree in public health at Johns Hopkins University. He has also been active as a performer and recording artist in the Twin Cities music scene for more than 20 years.

Mubina Qureshi, Ph.D.

[SEWA-AIFW](#)



Mubina works as a program manager for SEWA-AIFW (SEWA means "to serve" in Hindi and AIFW=Asian Indian Family Wellness) in Minneapolis. Her focus areas are culturally and linguistically specific services, gender equity programming, LGBTQ+ rights, and domestic and sexual violence advocacy and awareness among South Asian populations in Minnesota. Her experiences as an educator, researcher, translator, and interpreter span over a decade of linguistically and culturally specific teachings, trainings, and services to underserved populations in India and the U.S. Her doctoral research is focused on South Asian women writers and Islamic feminism intersections with gender studies and literature disciplines.

Nilushi Ranaweera, J.D.

[MN Attorney General's Office](#)

Nilushi is an Assistant Attorney General in the MN Attorney General's Office. She is currently working in the Statewide Expungement Program by helping Minnesotans with convictions to have greater opportunities by getting their criminal records sealed. Recent presentation experiences include a CLE organized by the American Immigration Lawyers Association Minnesota/Dakotas chapter titled "Expungements and Immigration" as well as a presentation about the Statewide Expungement Program for the Minnesota Human Trafficking Task Force.

Kevin Reese

[Until We Are All Free](#)



Kevin is a key leader in the Twin Cities community, serving and utilizing his platform to make effective change. After his encounter with the judicial system, his eyes were opened to the inadequacies and injustice that permeate the system. As a result, his life's mission is to rectify the detrimental effects of mass incarceration. The main ways he accomplishes this is by serving as the (former) Director of Criminal Justice at Voices for Racial Justice for more than six years and founding Until We Are All Free. Gifted with the talents of influential authorship and movement building, he became a recipient winner of the 2018 AWP Intro Journals Project for poetry published in the Hayden Ferry Review. His writing talents have also been featured in Emily Baxter's book, *We Are All Criminals*. Ultimately, his work centralizes the topics of humanity organizing transformative movements and ancestral visionary poetry.

Meggie Royer, B.A.

[Violence Free Minnesota](#)

Meggie is the Youth and Prevention Program Manager at Violence Free Minnesota, where she focuses on improving the public health response to domestic violence and overseeing the statewide youth advisory board on youth relationship violence. Her previous work includes providing education and outreach services in the community through a domestic violence shelter program and providing domestic violence services as a hospital-based advocate. In November and December 2020, along with representatives from the Department of Health and the Primary Care Association, she presented to social workers, healthcare providers, and advocates on addressing domestic violence via telehealth.

Katie Salaba, M.A.

[St. Paul City Attorney's Office](#)



Katie was one of the founding victim witness coordinators for the St. Paul City Attorney's Office, establishing policies and procedures to ensure a victim-centered approach to the prosecution of domestic violence cases. Katie previously interned with the Ramsey County Attorney's Office as a victim/witness advocate for felony prosecutions. She has a Master's of Arts degree in forensic mental health and an undergraduate degree in applied psychology.

Paula Schaefer, M.S.

[MN Department of Health](#)



Paula is the Safe Harbor Training Coordinator with the MN Department of Health. She coordinates and provides training and technical assistance for agencies that provide services for sexually exploited/sex trafficked children and youth. Paula previously worked as a practitioner with children, adolescents, and families in community and residential based services and ran a 50-bed private correctional program for court ordered adolescent girls. Paula has done consulting for the child welfare and juvenile justice systems throughout the U.S and Canada.

Sandra Seelhammer

[City of Bloomington Attorney's Office](#)

Sandra is the Crime Victim Liaison for the City of Bloomington, working with victims of misdemeanor and gross misdemeanor offenses. Previously, Sandra worked as the Victim/Witness Coordinator for Eckberg Lammers, P.C., assisting victims in four counties; as the Rice County Blueprint for Safety coordinator; and as a 911 dispatcher for 20 years. Sandra has co-presented on the topics of domestic violence, the Blueprint for Safety, and a multi-agency collaboration response to domestic violence. She also facilitated county-wide trainings on the topics of strangulation/stalking and linguistics referenced in police reports and media related to domestic violence cases.

Farji Shaheer

[Next Step Program-Hennepin Healthcare](#)

Farji is a founding staff member and violence intervention specialist with the Next Step hospital-based violence intervention program. Before joining Next Step, he worked for 15 years in emergency psychology at Hennepin County Medical Center. He also has 30+ years of lived experience surviving in hostile urban environments, which has given him deep insights into the role that trauma plays in perpetuating the cycle of violence. He is a narrative medicine and motivational interviewing expert who specializes in working with individuals who are hospitalized because of gunshot wounds and with communities who are traumatized by persistent violence and inequity.

Alicia Thoj, M.A.

[City of St. Paul](#) | [Labor Standards Division](#)



Alicia does community outreach education and investigations for the Labor Standards Division regarding their two ordinances: earned sick and safe time and minimum wage. Labor Standards is a division within the Human Rights and Equal Economic Opportunity Department. She is also an active member of the Race Equity Change Team for the city and advocates for anti-human trafficking work and multi-language programs.

Linda Thompson

[Minnesota Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition](#)

Linda is a member of the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa in Minnesota; she is also a lineal descendent to Leech Lake and Mille Lacs Lake Tribes. She is committed to social change work and ending all forms of violence, with a focus on gender-based violence. With proven leadership in developing and leading a Tribal domestic violence and sexual assault program and co-creating a Tribal Coalition, she understands the challenges and realities of service providers in a Tribal advocacy program. She has experience with policy and legislative efforts on Tribal, state and national levels as well serving in rural, reservation, and urban areas.

Dr. Mark Umbreit

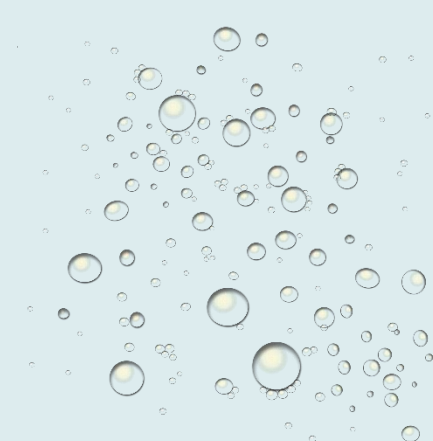
[Center for Restorative Justice & Peacemaking, University of Minnesota](#)

Mark is a professor and founding director of the Center for Restorative Justice & Peacemaking at the University of Minnesota, School of Social Work. He is an internationally recognized practitioner and scholar with more than 40 years of experience as a mediator, peacemaker, trainer, teacher, researcher, and author of seven books and more than 180 other publications in the fields of restorative justice, mediation, spirituality, forgiveness, and peacemaking. As a practitioner, he facilitates peacebuilding circles in the community between members of diverse cultures and restorative dialogues between family survivors of homicide, and the offender in their quest for healing and strength.

Mary Willis, M.A., L.P.C.C.

[Domestic Abuse Project](#)

Mary is a therapist working primarily with young children (ages 0-6) and their families, all of whom have been impacted by domestic violence. Her clinical practice centers around client-centered, trauma-informed work and addressing power differentials to create radical systems change.



Continuing Education Units/Credits

Professional continuing education credits have been applied for from the agencies listed below. OJP maintains attendance records and can provide verification upon request. In addition, attendees who attend a session through completion will be sent an evaluation. At the end of the evaluation is a certificate of attendance form that can be completed and printed by the attendee. Law enforcement officers seeking POST Board credits should notify the conference director to ensure that the attendance verification is submitted to the POST Board.

MN Board for Continuing Legal Education (units are all in hours)
Event Code: 364023

Access to Expungement for Victims with Criminal Records	1
Police Involvement in Parenting Time Issues	1
Native Women and Incarceration in Minnesota	1
Victim Centered Prosecution	1
Addressing the Impacts for IPV	1
Restitution Matters	1
Monetary Recovery for Labor Trafficking Survivors	1
Older and Vulnerable Abuse 101	1
Supporting LGBTQ Victim Services in the DV and SV Field	1
TOTAL CE HOURS APPLIED FOR	9

Minnesota Board of Social Work
Event Code: CEP 137

Hours: 25

Peace Officer Standards and Training Board (POST)
Event Code: 09424-0081

TOTAL POST HOURS APPLIED FOR: 21

